

SOME NEW BOOKS.

Under the title "Harvard Reminiscences" (Boston: Ticknor & Co.), Dr. Andrew P. Peabody, the venerable Preacher in the University and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, has put on record his recollections of the college officers he has known during his long connection with the university. He says in a prefatory remark: There were, sixty years ago, associated with the several departments of the university, men who ought not to be forgotten, yet of whose worth and services there remains no record except in the fading memory of their few surviving pupils, as whose self-appointed representative I write. I have adopted the order of graduation for my sketches, which embrace fifty-six years of college life, from 1776 to 1831 (inclusive). "Now the least interesting portion of this little volume is the concluding chapter, in which Dr. Peabody gives his own recollections of Harvard. It was during his novitiate as a student. Everything, both the curriculum and the living arrangements, was at that time on a decidedly backward scale. The students had to rough it, and many of them must have been pretty rough specimens of undeveloped culture themselves, while the instruction was what would to-day be considered little better than medieval. Dr. Peabody has something to say of so many college officers that the sketches are individually very brief as a rule. His reminiscences are almost always kindly, and his anticipations one would think must have been exceptionally few. All Harvard men will inevitably desire to read this book, and there are few Americans taking any pride in their country who can run their eyes over the long list of distinguished names here set down without feeling that the slightest fresh information concerning such citizens has an immediate interest for all their countrymen.

Principal Card has written, for the Philosophical Classics series, an account of Spinola (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.) which is confined to an examination of his philosophy, and is perspicuous, compact, and unsympathetic. There are some things in Spinola which Principal Card is one of the last men to understand, but his analysis and comparisons are elucidatory and useful within limits, and the beauty of his essay may tempt many to inform themselves concerning a philosopher too generally neglected.

In "Testing on the Plains" (Charles L. Webster & Co.) Mrs. E. B. Custer describes army life in Texas and Kansas after the close of the Rebellion. She writes easily and naturally, and with an ever-present admiration for her gallant husband which is touching and delightful. The frontier life in camp is vividly depicted, and the intimacies of the military family recorded with equal humor and spirit. Mrs. Custer herself must have been an ideal soldier's wife; for though in following the dashing General she was obliged to endure all manner of hardship and privation, she evidently bore all these discomforts uncomplainingly, and was quick to take her share in whatever fun and diversion offered. The General's staff was a lively one, being composed of young and bright officers who were always on the lookout for something to relieve the monotony of their exile; and as General Custer and his brother, Colonel Tom Custer, were much addicted to practical joking, time did not hang too heavily upon the hands of the comrades. There is plenty of interesting anecdote and fresh narrative in this book, and the illustrations, though somewhat rough and ready, are plentiful and well placed.

The Life of Anandabai Joshee, by Mrs. Caroline Healey Dell (Boston: Roberts Brothers), is an interesting biography of the first Hindu woman who was graduated in an American medical college, and who for much better reason deserves to be remembered. Anandabai Joshee had the courage to break through the strong barrier of Hindu conservatism and caste, and to avail herself of the opportunities for education offered by the West, in carrying out a nobly philanthropic purpose. Her intention was to arm herself with Western medical science in order that she might minister to her countrywomen, who are still cut off from the benefit of same therapeutics by the iron laws of caste and convention. Unhappily the brave woman could not live in this cold climate, and in the prosecution of her studies she contracted disease which carried her off soon after her return to India. She was the wife of Sopal Joshee, an educated Hindu of most eccentric and irritable character, who by his wild expiations of hatred to the English in India was continually creating difficult situations and embarrassing his wife and her friends. Mrs. Dell has written a sympathetic account of Anandabai, who possessed a beautiful character and a lofty and enlightened mind.

Margaret Stokes discusses "Early Christian Art in Ireland" (E. and J. B. Young & Co.) in a well illustrated book. These include fac-similes of letters from Wolfe, portraits of Admiral Roscawen, the Pompadour, Montaigu, Bougainville, Wolfe, Monckton, Townshend, Hugh Palliser, the Chevalier de Lewis, General Amherst and General Gage, together with an interesting reproduction of old prints of Quebec in 1759 and Quebec after the bombardment, 1759, of Montreal in 1760, and of the Battle of Montmorency, 1759. Much praise cannot be given to the narrative part of Mr. Hart's work. The president of the Society for Historical Studies, Montreal, cannot be said to have taken pains to secure accuracy in his historical statements, and particularly in his dates. Some of the errors may be due to the carelessness of the printer and proofreader, but even for these authors must be held largely responsible. The story of the fall of New France moreover has already been written so carefully and well that there is less excuse for slovenly editing now in a work on the subject.

The chief value of Mr. Gerald E. Hart's essay on "The Fall of New France" (G. P. Putnam's Sons) lies in the abundant and curious illustrations of the book. These include fac-similes of letters from Wolfe, portraits of Admiral Roscawen, the Pompadour, Montaigu, Bougainville, Wolfe, Monckton, Townshend, Hugh Palliser, the Chevalier de Lewis, General Amherst and General Gage, together with an interesting reproduction of old prints of Quebec in 1759 and Quebec after the bombardment, 1759, of Montreal in 1760, and of the Battle of Montmorency, 1759. Much praise cannot be given to the narrative part of Mr. Hart's work. The president of the Society for Historical Studies, Montreal, cannot be said to have taken pains to secure accuracy in his historical statements, and particularly in his dates. Some of the errors may be due to the carelessness of the printer and proofreader, but even for these authors must be held largely responsible. The story of the fall of New France moreover has already been written so carefully and well that there is less excuse for slovenly editing now in a work on the subject.

A volume of the late E. P. Whipple's occasional papers has been published (Boston: Tichener & Co.), under the title "Outlooks on Society, Literature and Politics." The articles appeared originally in various periodicals and are on diverse topics. Mr. Whipple's pleasant, easy, shrewd manner informs them all, but it is apparent that he wrote better on literary than on political themes, for in treating the latter he is apt to lose something of his native geniality and sometimes also a little of that restraint and moderation which mark his best work. Such papers as "A Grand Business Man of the New School," "Lowell as a Prose Writer," "In Dickens' Land," and the "Hawthorne" articles, are of the kind to interest all alike and for a long time. Other essays are on passing events, and while reflecting the thought of the period belong too wholly to the past to receive the same welcome.

Mr. Benjamin Tucker certainly shows his faith by his works in undertaking the translation and publication of the whole of Proudhon's writings, in "a ponderous literary enterprise" has been issued (Benjamin R. Tucker, Boston) and contains the first volume of the "System of Economic Contradictions," or, as Proudhon's sub-title runs, "The Philosophy of Misery." The author's theories are characterized by audacity far more than by sane judgment. Among other long-explored fallacies he attacks machinery as being identical to the interests of labor. His contentions with regard to property and its rights are too well-known to need restatement. He belonged to that intellectual aftermath of the Revolution which embodied the elements of French thought unconquerable by the logic of facts. There is no doubt a certain interest in following the vagaries of these writers, but assuredly no profit to be derived from them, and least of all any practical ideas.

A new edition of H. L. Sidney Lear's biography of Henry Domingue Lardocore has been published (B. & J. B. Young & Co.), which is a proof that the book has found appreciative readers. Lardocore's career is full of picturesqueness and he moves always in a refined atmosphere spiritually. Mr. Lear's account of the great preacher is full enough to convey a distinct impression of him, and not so elaborated as to weary the reader.

The seventh and eighth volumes of Mr. Bigelow's new edition of Franklin's Works (Putnam's) have been issued. The seventh volume contains, among much valuable political correspondence, some evidence that Franklin's naturally sweet temper and large patience were not quite proof against the incessant and multi-

Instruction.

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